

2012-2013 NIGHT-TIME CCI International Time Programme

***Notice: The deadline for the 2012 call for proposals is
midnight, February 29, 2012.***

The International Scientific Committee (CCI) of the Roque de los Muchachos (ORM, La Palma) and Teide (OT, Tenerife) observatories invites applications for International Time Programmes (ITP) on telescopes installed at these Observatories. The ITP offers up to 5% of the observing time, evenly spread throughout the year and the lunar cycle, at the telescopes listed on the ITP web page:

www.iac.es/eno.php?op1=5&op2=13&op3=26&lang=en

An ITP proposal can request observing time over a period of up to two subsequent years.

The Gran Telescopio Canarias: Specific information that must be taken into consideration if time is requested on this telescope may be obtained at the GTC web site www.gtc.iac.es/en/. ITP time at the NOT in 2012-2013 will be contingent on reaching a satisfactory financial and legal basis for the operations in that period.

Proposers must bear in mind that specific instrumentation may not be available at all times and that the CCI does not schedule the observing time as this is done by the corresponding technical committees of each telescope or group of telescopes. Therefore, if a proposal will require specific scheduling requirements for a telescope, or coordinated requirements at various telescopes, the PI needs to contact the telescope staff (identified via the web link above) to discuss this in advance of submitting the application. Large scale monitoring projects that require a fraction of many nights are discouraged because of the interference in normal observing programmes.

The aim of the ITP is to encourage large-scale international scientific projects of the highest quality, which cannot easily be accommodated within other time allocation schemes. Proposals should be international in their range of participants and are expected to involve astronomers from at least two of the European countries that will be signatories to the Agreements for Cooperation in Astrophysics during period in which observing time is requested*. Moreover, astronomers from scientific institutions from any other country in the world can be included. The PI should ensure in advance that those astronomers participating in observing runs will have access to travel and subsistence funds, as this is not provided by the CCI or OPTICON.

The observing programmes should concentrate on a single large-scale astronomical investigation. Proposals that would benefit from the use of more than one facility, and which would be unlikely to obtain the necessary large amount observing time through the usual time allocation panels because of the scale of the project, or because of the difficulty to coordinate several telescopes, are especially encouraged. However, collaborative international projects that require the use of a single facility are also welcome.

Scientific excellence is a prime consideration. Each proposal will be assessed scientifically by the CCI, which reserves the right not to make an award on one or more telescopes if the quality of the proposals is not adequate to justify their use.

The CCI may award time to one or more projects. Once a project is selected, and with the agreement of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, any Spanish institution shall have the right to join the programme if it wishes. Annual brief progress reports will be required by the CCI from successful applicants. On completion of the programme, and not later than two years after the final period of observing time, a full report should be submitted to the CCI for publication in its Annual Report.

Proposals are considered on an annual cycle. The closing date for submission of proposals to the next ITP is the last day of February each year for projects, which may start during the second semester of the same year. The application form will be available at:

<http://www.otri.iac.es/cci/> from February 1st, 2011 and requires the following information:

- a. Title; list of applicants and their affiliations
- b. An informative summary, not exceeding one side of A4
- c. A science case including:
 - Relevant background
 - Motivation for programme
 - What the programme can achieve
- d. A table specifying the time request per telescope and observing mode.
- e. A description of the observations to be obtained (including a target list) and assessment of feasibility (technical case).
- f. A project management plan, which includes how the work will be shared among the CoIs
- g. A commentary on the use made of earlier ITP time awarded to any of the applicants (only if ITP has been granted previously).
- h. References

The page limit for each section is indicated on the web file; any information beyond this limit will be excluded. Proposals should be submitted electronically via the web, or can be saved as a pdf file and sent by e-mail to: cci@iac.es

If submitted via the web an automatic confirmation will be generated, if sent by e-mail the CCI Secretary will confirm its safe reception.

The Solar ITP is advertised and managed for the CCI by the EAST:

www.astro-east.org/

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* Spain, Germany, UK, Italy, France, Belgium and Finland.